

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on February 2, 2009  
at 9:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Sue Dickenson, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Jesse O'Hara, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Russell Bean (R)  
Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)  
Rep. Joel Boniek (R)  
Rep. Frosty Boss Ribs (D)  
Rep. Dee Brown (R)  
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)  
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)  
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)  
Rep. Sue Malek (D)  
Rep. Kendall Van Dyk (D)  
Rep. Ted Washburn (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Betsy Hands (D)  
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)  
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

**Members Absent:** Rep. Mary Caferro (D)

**Staff Present:** Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch  
Marshall McEwen, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 155, SB 156, 1/27/2009

Executive Action: SB 24, HB 363

**HEARING ON SB 156**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:14 Sen. Mike Cooney (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 156, Revise law to coordinate certain political candidate filing deadlines.

00:03:48 Rep. Caferro entered the room.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:05:15 Lisa Kimmert, Election Deputy, Montana Secretary of State's Office

**EXHIBIT (sth24a01)**

00:06:46 Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties

00:06:59 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:07:31 Mary Baker, Program Supervisor, Political Practices

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:08:12 Rep. Washburn

00:08:27 Ms. Baker

00:09:04 Rep. Washburn

00:09:14 Ms. Baker

00:09:39 Rep. Washburn

00:09:42 Rep. Brown

00:10:15 Sen. Cooney

00:12:16 Rep. Brown

00:12:31 Sen. Cooney

00:14:41 Rep. Brown

00:14:51 Chairman Himmelberger

00:15:00 Rep. Brown

00:15:12 Ms. Kimmert

00:15:36 Rep. O'Hara

00:16:05 Chairman Himmelberger

00:16:13 Sen. Cooney

00:16:16 Chairman Himmelberger

00:16:46 Sen. Cooney

00:16:50 Chairman Himmelberger

00:17:18 Sen. Cooney

00:17:27 Rep. MacLaren

00:17:33 Chairman Himmelberger

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:17:38 Sen. Cooney  
00:17:49 Chairman Himmelberger

**HEARING ON SB 155**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:18:02 Sen. Mike Cooney (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 155, Require post-election audits of vote-counting machines.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:20:47 Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State  
**EXHIBIT(sth24a02)**  
00:23:31 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Clerks and  
Recorders  
00:23:58 Rep. Wilmer entered the room.  
00:24:25 Drew Geiger, Montana League of Women Voters  
00:24:59 Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties  
00:25:20 Carl Peil, AARP Montana  
**EXHIBIT(sth24a03)**  
00:26:13 Kate Cholewa, Montana Common Cause

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:26:48 Rep. O'Hara  
00:27:09 Ms. McCulloch  
00:27:18 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:27:21 Ms. Kimmet  
00:28:07 Rep. O'Hara  
00:28:21 Ms. Kimmet  
00:29:24 Rep. Bean  
00:29:47 Sen. Cooney  
00:30:38 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:30:46 Ms. Kimmet  
00:31:43 Rep. Bean  
00:32:15 Ms. Kimmet  
00:32:23 Rep. Bean  
00:32:35 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:32:40 Rep. Boniek  
00:33:02 Ms. Kimmet  
00:34:05 Rep. Boniek

00:34:19 Ms. Kimmet  
00:34:37 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:34:40 Rep. MacLaren  
00:34:58 Ms. Kimmet  
00:35:39 Rep. MacLaren  
00:35:50 Ms. Kimmet  
00:36:20 Rep. MacLaren  
00:36:52 Ms. Kimmet  
00:37:19 Rep. MacLaren  
00:37:27 Ms. Kimmet  
00:37:34 Rep. Brown  
00:38:03 Ms. Kimmet  
00:38:08 Rep. Brown  
00:38:11 Rep. Dickenson  
00:38:30 Ms. Kimmet  
00:38:41 Rep. Washburn  
00:39:08 Ms. Kimmet  
00:39:21 Rep. Washburn  
00:39:27 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:39:51 Ms. Wood  
00:40:24 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:40:51 Ms. Wood  
00:41:02 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:41:05 Ms. Kimmet  
00:41:09 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:41:28 Ms. Kimmet  
00:41:34 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:41:48 Ms. Kimmet  
00:41:58 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:42:38 Ms. Kimmet  
00:43:09 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:43:24 Ms. Kimmet  
00:43:28 Chairman Himmelberger

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:43:37 Sen. Cooney  
00:47:26 Chairman Himmelberger  
  
00:47:37 Sen. Cooney  
00:48:02 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:48:41 Rep. Brown  
00:48:43 Chairman Himmelberger  
  
00:48:56 Committee takes a break.  
01:12:26 Committee reconvenes. Rep. Dickenson is absent after  
the break.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 24**

01:13:31 **Motion:** Rep. Brown moved that **SB 24 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

01:13:36 Chairman Himmelberger

01:13:46 Rep. Hendrick

01:14:33 Rep. Van Dyk

01:14:42 Rep. Dickenson entered the room.

01:15:55 Rep. Brown

01:16:09 Rep. Caferro

01:16:56 Chairman Himmelberger

01:17:03 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Ingraham will carry the bill on to the House floor.

01:17:20 Chairman Himmelberger

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 363**

01:18:00 **Motion:** Rep. Ingraham moved that **HB 363 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

01:18:05 Chairman Himmelberger

01:18:17 Rep. Brown

01:19:13 Rep. Bean

01:20:17 Rep. Belcourt

01:21:15 Chairman Himmelberger

01:21:32 Rep. Boniek

01:22:27 Chairman Himmelberger

01:22:31 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:22:53 Chairman Himmelberger

01:23:09 Rep. Caferro

01:23:29 Chairman Himmelberger

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:23:32 Adjournment: 10:23 A.M.

---

Marshall McEwen, Secretary

mm

**Additional Exhibits**

**EXHIBIT**(sth24a04) Testimony pertaining to SB 155

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT** (**sth24aad.pdf**)